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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT  
 INFORMATION FROM  
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY North Korea

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950

SUBJECT Military

DATE DIST. 5 Jul 1950

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper

WHERE PUBLISHED P'yongyang

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE PUBLISHED 8 Feb 1950

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Korean

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SOURCE Nodong Sinmun.DEFENSE MINISTER ORDERS COMBAT PREPARATIONS

Order No 51 was issued by Ch'oe Yong-kon, Minister of National Defense of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 8 February 1950, in the city of P'yongyang, as follows:

Today we celebrate the second anniversary of the founding of the People's Army (Inmingun). Within these 2 years we have developed strong forces which are most adequately equipped with modern arms, tactics, and fighting capacities which enable them to execute any type of combat. More important, each soldier and officer is filled with deep-rooted revenge and animosity against our common foes, and the sense of self-sacrifice for the people and the state.

The present conditions in our Fatherland demand our People's Army to intensify combat preparations.

Fellow officers and men in the Army, Navy, and Special Services unit, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the founding of our People's Army, I issue to you the following orders:

1. You must master military sciences and tactics, be able to handle your arms expertly, protect your arms and equipment; familiarize yourselves with combat situations, concentrate your entire efforts upon military training, and prepare yourself to undertake any military campaign regardless of scale.

2. Each officer must perfect the coordinative activities among the troops under his command, and perfect his commanding ability on the combat field.

3. All military personnel must band together strongly as an iron around our leader, Kim Il-song. You must strengthen your political and thought armor for the execution of the sacred mission vested in you by the people and the state.

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